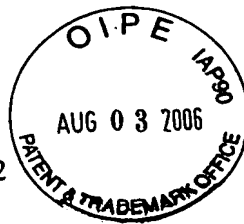


DOCKET NO: 242649US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
YOSHIHARU KANDA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: MOONEY, MICHAEL P.
SERIAL NO: 10/660,691 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 12, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2883
FOR: OPTICAL FIBER AXIAL :
ALIGNMENT METHOD AND RELATED
DEVICE, AND OPTICAL FIBER FUSION
SPlicing METHOD AND RELATED
DEVICE

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated May 3, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 11 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.